

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended): A process for the hydrogenation of aromatic polymers in the presence of catalysts, wherein a metal or a mixture of metals of subgroup VIII of the periodic table, together with a support comprising alumina, is used as a catalyst, and the pore volume corresponding to the pore diameter of the catalyst between 1000 and 10,000 Å, as measured by mercury porosimetry, is [generally 100 - 15] 70 to 30 % with respect to the total pore volume as measured by mercury porosimetry.

Claim 2. (Cancelled).

Claim 3. (Cancelled).

Claim 4. (Cancelled).

Claim 5. (Previously Presented): A process according to Claim 1 wherein the catalysts have a pore volume, as measured by nitrogen sorption, of less than 10 % for pore diameters less than 600 Å.

Claim 6. (Previously Presented): A process according to Claim 1 wherein the metals are selected from nickel, platinum, ruthenium, rhodium and palladium.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented): A process according to Claim 1 wherein the process is conducted in the presence of solvents which can be used for hydrogenation reactions.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented): A process according to Claim 1 wherein the catalyst has a specific surface greater than 5 m²/g.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended): A process for hydrogenating aromatic polymers comprising using a supported catalyst wherein support contains alumina and where the catalyst comprise at least one metal of subgroup VIII of the Periodic Table, said catalyst characterized in that the pore volume of the pores having diameters of 1000 to 10,000 Angstrom, is [15 to 100] 30 to 70 % relative to the total pore volume, said pore volume determined by mercury porosimetry.